



Tips for Success in 2021-2022

Tips for Success

Sanitation:

- Have all teachers and students sanitize or wash hands upon entering the classroom and between activities throughout the day.
- Clean/disinfect tables, high touch areas, and common materials frequently. Discourage sharing of items that are difficult to clean or disinfect.
- Ensure adequate supplies to minimize sharing of high touch materials to the extent possible (e.g., assign each student their own pencil, scissors, crayons & glue) or limit use of supplies and equipment by one group of children at a time and clean and disinfect between use.

Large Group:

- Consider dividing the class into two groups or “cohorts” for large group activities. The Lead and Assistant teachers can both lead “smaller” large group activities.
- Create distance between children on the rug (e.g., seat children one child every two spots, skip rows) when possible.

Small Group:

- More planned small groups times should be considered for each day.
- Set up cohorts of students that participate in activities together as a consistent small group to reduce interaction among all students. Cohorts don’t mix, but physical distancing isn’t always observed within the cohort group.

Center Time:

- Limit the number of children in learning centers during center time. Consider engaging half of the class in Center Time with one teacher while the other half of the children are outside with the second teacher. Then swap children. This may mean that center time will be shortened in order to fit all activities into the day.
- Programs may choose to rotate materials or only open a few centers each day. When a center is not open on a given day, hang a stop sign on the center.
- Place used manipulatives and toys in a large bin to clean at the end of the day. Consider using materials that can be easily sanitized.

Nap Time:

- Ensure that children’s naptime mats are spaced out as much as possible, ideally 3-6 feet apart. Consider placing children head to toe in order to further reduce the potential for viral spread.
- Cots and mats should be labeled for each child and cleaned regularly.
- Keep each child’s bedding separate; consider storing in individually labeled bins, cubbies, or bags.

Be Prepared:

- Establish program procedures to be followed if a staff member, child, or family member becomes sick. The local health department should be contacted for additional guidance.
- Create written distance learning plans to provide families in the event of temporary closures due to increased COVID 19 spread.

Resources for Support

My Corona Virus Social Story: <https://www.flipsnack.com/KeshetChicago/coronavirus-social-story/full-view.html?fbclid=IwARoqdHUyM1uTtmPX8yaWLIxdDYkTjKftWcgBLd9vUOGBI8EjPvc9dBJbsMc>

Free Printable Handwashing Posters: <https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/posters.html>

Promoting Social Emotional Development: <https://bestpractices.gsu.edu/resources/social-emotional/>

Social Distancing Greeting Choices For Kids: <https://boxofideas.uk/social-distancing-greetings/>